

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 16 are pending in the subject application. Claims 1, 12, 15, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 2-11, and 13 are objected to but otherwise allowable. Claims 1, 10, and 11 have been amended and claims 17 and 18 have been newly added. Accordingly, after entry of this amendment, the pending claims will be claims 1-18.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim 11 has been re-written in independent form and is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claim 2 has been re-written in independent form as new claim 17, which is believed to be in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 12 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0107776 to Maeda ("Maeda" or the "Maeda Reference"). Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 10, which the Examiner admits would be allowable if re-written in independent form. The Applicants believe that the grounds for rejection are moot and respectfully submit that, claims 1, 12, 15, and 16 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 102(e), and are allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

With respect to new claim 18, Maeda does not disclose multi-address transmission by group as recited in the claim. Indeed, according to the present

invention inputted destinations are classified into groups according to the communication media and stored in memory. Then, the image data are transmitted on the basis of group of destinations stored in memory. Maeda merely relates to an apparatus that is switched to an Internet FAX mode using a LAN rather than facsimile communication using a telephone network.

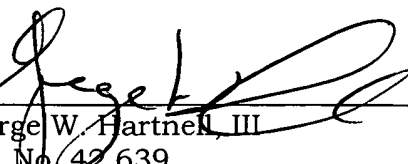
35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claim 14 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,134,502 to Nakatsuma. Due to the amendment to claim 1, the Applicants now believe that the grounds for rejection are moot. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that, claim 14 satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 103(a), and is allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

The Applicants believe that no additional fee is required for consideration of the within Response. However, if for any reason the fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

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